(c) by when would the supply start?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) The Government of Iran has sent a preliminary proposal to supply natural gas to India through an onland pipeline route passing through Pakistan. An Indo-Iran Joint Committee on Transmission of Gas consisting of representatives of the Government of Iran and India has been constituted to examine all aspects of the pipeline proposed by the Government of Iran including political, technical, financing etc.

(b) and (c) Does not arise, as the proposal of the Government of Iran is in a preliminary stage.

Adulteration in Motor Fuel

*7. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY:
SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that petrol dealers are using naptha and other solvents on a large scale to adulterate motor fuel;

(b) what stringent steps his Ministry is taking to prevent dealers from adultering motor fuel; and

(c) whether his Ministry would consider cancelling the dealership of those who are found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Naphtha and solvents are commonly used as adulterants of petrol.

To check the adulteration in automobile fuels *viz.* Motor Spirit (MS) and High Speed Diesel (HSD) by adulterants like Naphtha, Solvent, Raffinate and Slop, the Government has promulgated on 5th June, 2000, the Solvent, Raffinate and Slop (Acquisition, Sale, Storage and Prevention of use in Automobiles) Order, 2000 and the Naphtha (Acquisition, Sale, Storage and Prevention of use in Automobiles) Order, 2000 under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Further, the oil marketing companies carry out regular/surprise checks of

retail outlets, to prevent various malpractices including adulteration. In addition, special drives are launched by the oil companies both on their own and also under direction of Government from time to time to check malpractices. Further, to prevent adulteration various steps like blue dyeing of kerosene (PDS), furfural doping, filter paper test, checking of retail outlets by mobile laboratories, etc. are undertaken by the oil companies.

(c) The dealer agreements of the oil marketing companies provide for termination of dealership if dealer tampers with the quality of the product.

White Paper on 48 PSUs

*9. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a White Paper on the 48 public sector undertakings under his Ministry's control is to be brought out by Government;

(b) whether any discussion took place with the CMDs of these undertakings on 5th June, 2000; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A meeting was held with the Chief Executives of some of PSUs on 5th June, 2000 to review the present status.

Placement agencies engaged by EIL

*10. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names/address of placement agencies engaged by the Engineers India Limited (EIL);